Smithsonian

ALLEGHENY OBSERVATORY.
ALLEGHENY, PENNSYLVANIA.

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Dear Professor Gray.

Let me thank you at once for your very kind letter of yesterday and for your obliging consideration of my wishes. I hope I may be able to justify your and the Regents confidence: but I will certainly try, and can at any rate, bring to the trial a purpose to give the interests of the Smithsonian Institution, as viewed by the Regents and by Professor Baird, my undivided thought and care in Washington.

I telegraphed Professor Baird yesterday, and purpose to write him. Today I am invalided by a severe cold, and will only repeat what I am sure you know, that I am very sensible